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Patent

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Kondo, et al.

Serial No. 09/249,489

Filed: February 12, 1999

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS
FOR ERROR DATA
RECOVERY

) Examiner: Chaudry, M.

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) Art Unit: 2133

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

In the Specification

Please replace the following paragraph on page 4, line 2:

a'
The present invention provides a mechanism for preventing quality degradation of decoded data during the decoding of encoded data. In one embodiment, error propagation is detected and corresponding data is flagged. An error recovery process is then applied to the flagged data. In an alternate embodiment, ~~candidate~~ hypotheses are calculated for lost/damaged data. A score distribution is used for detection of the false ~~candidate~~ hypotheses. The data are flagged if their score distribution is within a range defined by a threshold and an error recovery process is applied to recover those data having associated error flags set.

Please replace the following paragraph on page 7, line 19

a2
One embodiment of a system that operates in accordance with the teachings of the present invention is illustrated in **Figure 1a**. The encoded bitstream of data, error flags indicating portions of data that are lost or damaged (lost/damaged), and decoded data